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# TELEVISION TUNER FOR SATELLITE BROADCASTING [Eiseihosoyo terebijon chuna]

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# Specifications

- 1. Name of this Invention

  TELEVISION TUNER FOR SATELLITE BROADCASTING
- 2. Claim(s)
- [1] Television tuner for satellite broadcasting equipped with a switch which changes its connection when the C/N ratio of a first middle frequency signal becomes lower than the threshold value and a Telop generation circuit which generates a Telop signal for displaying a message on a display screen, and when the C/N ratio of the first middle frequency signal becomes lower than the threshold value by the connection change of said switch, the output signal of the video output terminal is switched to a Telop signal from a video signal.
- [2] Television tuner for satellite broadcasting according to Claim 1, wherein the AGC level voltage is used for control the switching.
- [3] Television tuner for satellite broadcasting according to Claim 1, wherein the threshold voltage for switching is made variable.
- [4] Television tuner for satellite broadcasting according to Claim 2, wherein the threshold voltage for switching is made variable.

Detailed Explanation of this Invention
 [Technological Field]

This invention pertains to a television tuner for satellite broadcasting.

[Conventional Technology]

Fig. 4 is a diagram showing the configuration of the conventional television tuner for satellite broadcasting. figure, item 1 denotes a first middle frequency input terminal connected to a down-converter, to which a signal of 1035 - 1335 MHz is inputted. Item 2 denotes a tuner for converting a first middle frequency into a second middle frequency (402.78 MHz). Item 3 denotes an AGC amplifier and item 4 denotes a second middle frequency amplification circuit. Item 5 denotes a detection diode; 6 denotes an amplifier; and 7 denotes an AGC level voltage output terminal. Item 8 denotes an FM amplifier which demodulates an FM-modulated second middle frequency signal; and 9 denotes a video-voice separation circuit which separates the video signal and voice signal from a demodulated signal. Item 10 denotes a video signal process circuit for processing a separated video signal. Item 11 denotes a video signal output terminal. Item 12 denotes a process circuit for processing a separated voice signal. Items 13a and 13b denote voice outputs separated into 2 channels respectively.

With the television tuner for satellite broadcasting, the second middle frequency signal amplified by the second middle frequency

amplification circuit 4 is FM-demodulated and detected by the detection diode 5. Thus, if the AGC level voltage provided by amplifying the detection signal is high, the gain of the AGC amplifier is lowered; whereas if the AGC level voltage is low, the gain of the AGC amplifier 3 is increased to allow the signal level after the second middle frequency amplifying circuit 4 to be fixed, thereby subsequently configuring an AGC loop in this manner.

[Problems to be Solved by this Invention]

However, the abovementioned configuration causes significant rain-fall attenuation. Thus, when the broadcasted video image is not reproducible, a meaningless video signal carrying only the noise is outputted from a video signal output terminal. Moreover, as the reason of not showing the normal video image cannot be understood by the general viewers, the viewers erroneously identify the source of this problem as a tuner problem.

This invention was developed based on the problems described above. Thus, the purpose of this invention is to provide a television tuner for satellite broadcasting which outputs a Telop signal from a video signal output terminal 11 so as to display a message indicating that the quality of the received video image is much deteriorated because of rain-fall attenuation at the time of rain-fall attenuation occurrence.

# [Means to Solve the Problems]

To solve the abovementioned object, this invention provides a television tuner for satellite broadcasting, equipped with a Telop generation circuit which can be operated instead of the video signal processing circuit when the input signal level becomes lower than the threshold level.

# [Operation]

The device of this invention configured as described above outputs a Telop signal for displaying a Telop message instead of a video signal when the signal level decreases due to rain-fall attenuation, so that a Telop message indicating the worsened signal reception caused by the signal level lower than the threshold value can be displayed on the screen.

### [Operational Examples]

Fig. 1 is a diagram showing the configuration of television tuner for satellite broadcasting described in the first Operational example. The parts identical to those in Fig. 4 are denoted by the same numeric symbols. The device shown in Fig. 1 is identical to the device shown in Fig. 4 except that it has a Telop generation circuit 14 and switch 15 operated by reflecting the AGC level voltage.

The following explains the operation of the television tuner for satellite broadcasting configured as described above. The switch 15 controls the switching using the AGC level voltage provided through a control line 21. While the first middle frequency level is high, and

the video reception quality is sufficiently high, the AGC level voltage is also high. Thus, the switch 15 is connected to the contact point at the video signal processing circuit 19 and operated in the same way as the conventional device shown in Fig. 4 to provide a regular video signal image. However, when the first middle frequency input signal level is lowered drastically due to rain-fall attenuation, causing extremely low video signal reception quality, the AGC level voltage drastically decreases as well, thereby allowing the switch 15 to connect the contact point 17 at the Telop generation circuit side. Thus, a Telop signal for displaying a message of "Currently, signal level is low" is transmitted from the Telop generation circuit 14 and displayed on the television screen through the video signal output terminal 11. The threshold for switching the switch 15 is set beforehand corresponding to the required video signal reception quality.

As described above, based on this Operational example, by providing a switch 15 which switches the connection when the AGC level voltage becomes lower than the threshold level and a Telop generation circuit 14 connected to the switch 15, when the video signal reception quality becomes extremely low due to rain-fall attenuation, the Telop message is automatically displayed for indicating the low signal level, thereby allowing general viewers to easily understand the reason for the worsened video signal reception, subsequently preventing them from misunderstanding the source of

problem as a problem of the television tuner for satellite broadcasting.

Fig. 2 is a diagram showing the configuration of the television tuner for satellite broadcasting described in the second Operational example. The parts identical to those shown in Figs. 1 and 4 are denoted by the same numeric symbols. The device shown in Fig. 2 is identical to the device shown in Fig. 1, except that it has a variable level shifter 23.

The following explains the operation of the television tuner for satellite broadcasting of this operational example configured as described above. The variable level shifter 23 is for allowing easy modification of the threshold of the AGC level voltage used for switching the switch 15. With this shifter 23, when the first middle frequency input signal level changes due to the change of the regular value of the AGC level voltage caused by the change of the down converter of the previous level, change of the antenna diameter, etc., the threshold value for changing the setting of the switch 15 for the video signal quality can be fixed by modifying the level shift amount of the variable level shifter 21. The rest of the operational configuration is identical to the Operational example shown in Fig. 1.

As described above, by inserting the variable level shifter 23 into the control line 21 of the switch, even when the antenna diameter or gain of the down converter is changed, the threshold

value for generating a Telop associated with the video signal reception quality can be maintained at a fixed value.

Fig. 3 is a diagram showing the configuration of the television tuner for satellite broadcasting described in the third Operational example of this invention. The parts identical to those shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 4 are denoted by the same numeric symbols. difference between the device shown in Fig. 3 and device shown in Fig. 2 is that, in Fig. 3, the switch 16 is inserted into the input side of the video signal processing circuit 10 instead of the output side. With this configuration, the first middle frequency input signal level is lowered in the same way as described with the Operational examples shown in Figs. 1 and 3, thereby displaying a Telop message when the AGC level voltage becomes lower than the threshold level for changing the setting of the switch 16 due to the decreased first middle frequency input signal level. Also, as described with the Operational example shown in Fig. 2, by inserting the variable level shifter 23 into the control line 22, even when the regular value of the input signal level changes due to the change of the antenna diameter, down converter gain, etc., the threshold for generating a Telop message associated with the video signal quality can be maintained fixed.

Note that the variable level shifter 23 in the Operational examples 2 and 3 may be replaced with a variable gain amplifier.

Moreover, although the AGC level voltage is used for detecting the

signal level in the first - third Operational examples, the voltage may be generated based on the configuration in the manner of utilizing a direct current by detecting the output signal of the AGC amplifier 3 or the signal of the second middle frequency amplifier circuit. Moreover, as in the case of the first and second operational examples, the Telop message content is not restricted. [Effect of this Invention]

As explained above, with the method based on this invention, when the video reception quality is drastically worsened due to decreased signal level, a Telop message is displayed so as to avoid displaying only the deteriorated video image filled with noise, while allowing a viewer to be easily informed of the cause of the worsened video signal quality. Thus, the practical effect of this invention is significant.

# 4. Simple Explanation of the Figures

Fig. 1 is a diagram of a television tuner for satellite broadcasting described in an operational example of this invention. Fig. 2 and Fig. 3 are diagrams of respective television tuners for satellite broadcasting described in other operational examples of this invention. Fig. 4 is a diagram of a conventional television tuner for satellite broadcasting.

1...First middle frequency input terminal; 3...AGC amplifier;
5...Detection diode; 10...Video signal processing circuit; 11...Video

signal output terminal; 14...Telop generation circuit; 15,
16...Switch

# Figure 1

Key: 1...First middle frequency input terminal; 2...Tuner; 3...AGC amplifier; 4...Second middle frequency amplification circuit; 8...FM demodulator; 9...Video-voice separation circuit; 11...Video signal output terminal; 15...Switch

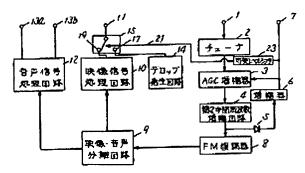


Figure 2

Key: 1...First middle frequency input terminal; 2...Tuner; 3...AGC amplifier; 4...Second middle frequency amplification circuit; 6...Amplifier; 8...FM demodulator; 9...Video-voice separation circuit; 10...Video signal process circuit; 11...Video signal output terminal; 12...Voice signal process circuit; 14...Telop generation circuit

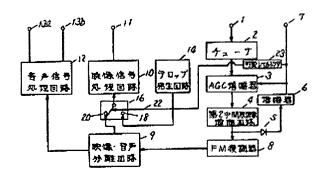


Figure 3

Key: 1...First middle frequency input terminal; 2...Tuner; 3...AGC amplifier; 4...Second middle frequency amplification circuit; 6...Amplifier; 8...FM demodulator; 9...Video-voice separation circuit; 10...Video signal process circuit; 11...Video signal output terminal; 12...Voice signal process circuit; 14...Telop generation circuit; 23...Variable level shifter

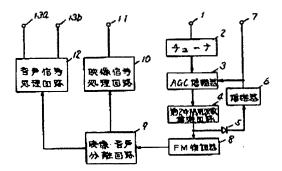


Figure 4

Key: 2...Tuner; 3...AGC amplifier; 4...Second middle frequency
amplification circuit; 6...Amplifier; 8...FM demodulator; 9...Videovoice separation circuit; 10...Video signal process circuit;
11...Video signal output terminal; 12...Voice signal process circuit;
14...Telop generation circuit; 23...Variable level shifter

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TELEVISION TUNER FOR SATELLITE BROADCASTING

## Abstract Text - FPAR (2):

CONSTITUTION: When the first intermediate frequency signal level is remarkably reduced or the quality of the received video is much deteriorated because of rain-fall or attenuation, AGC level voltage is also much reduced. Then a switch 15 is switched to the contact 17 of the Telop generation circuit side and the Telop signal which says 'Now the signal level is reduced.' is outputted by the Telop generation circuit 14 and displayed on the display screen of a television through a video signal output terminal 11. Therefore, when the quality of the received video is much deteriorated because of the rain-fall or the attenuation, the switch 15 is automatically switched to the Telop signal which shows the fall of the signal level. Thus the cause of the deterioration of the quality of the received video can be easily recognized by the viewer and prevented to be misconceived as the trouble of the television tuner for satellite broadcasting.

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**図発明の名称** 

衛星放送用テレビジョンチューナ

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明 細 書

1、発明の名称

衛星放送用テレビジョンチューナ

### 2、特許請求の範囲

(4) スイッチの切り換えのスレッショルド電圧を

可変にしたことを特徴とする特許請求の範囲第2

項記載の衛星放送用テレビジョンチューナ。

3、発明の詳細な説明

産業上の利用分野

本発明は、衛星放送用テレビジョンチューナに 関するものである。

従来の技術

13a,13bはそれぞれ2チャンネルに分離された音声出力である。

. . .

以上のように構成された従来の衛星放送受信機においては、第2中間周波数増幅回路4で増幅された第2中間周波数信号はFM復調されるとともに、検波ダイオード6で検波され、検波信号を増幅したAGCレベル電圧が高ければAGC増幅器3の利得を下げ、AGCレベル電圧が低ければAGC増幅器3の利得を上げることにより第2中間周波数増幅回路4以後の信号レベルが一定になるAGCループを構成している。

#### 発明が解決しようとする問題点

しかしながら上記のような構成では、降雨減衰が著しく、放送されている画像が再現不可能な場合、雑音ばかりの無意味な映像信号が映像信号出力端子より出力されることになる。また、正常な画像が現れなくなった原因が一般視聴者には簡単には理解できず故障と誤認されるという問題点を有していた。

本発明はかかる点に鑑み、降雨波袞が著しい場

5 ×-3

電圧に連動したスイッチ15が新たに加えられた 以外は第4図の従来例と同様な構成である。

以上のように構成されたとの実施例の衛星放送 用テレビジョンチューナについて、以下その動作 を説明する。スイッチ15は制御線21より加え られるAGCレベル電圧により切り換えを制御す る。第1中間周波数レベルが高く映像受信品質が 十分に高いうちは、AGC レベル電圧も高く、ス イッチ15は映像信号処理回路側接点19に接続 され、従来例の第4図と同様に動作して通常の受 信画像を提供する。次に、降雨減衰などにより第 1 中間周波数入力信号レベルが著しく低くなり、 映像受信品質が非常に低くなった場合には、AGC レベル電圧も著しく低下し、スイッチ1ぢはテロ ップ発生回路側の接点17に切り換わり、"現在 信号レベルが低下してます。"というテロップ信 号がテロップ発生回路14より送出され、映像信 号出力端子11を通じてテレビジョンの画面上に 表われる。スイッチ15の切り換えのスレッショ ルドは、必要とする映像受信品質に応じてあらか

合には、その旨を伝えるテロップを表示するためのテロップ信号を映像信号出力端子11より出力する衛星放送用テレビジョンチューナを提供することを目的とする。

#### 問題点を解決するための手段

本発明は入力信号レベルが一定のレベルより低下したときに映像信号処理回路にかわって働くテロップ発生回路を備えた衛星放送用テレビションチューナである。

#### 作崩

本発明は前配した構成により降雨被衰等により 信号レベルが低下すると映像信号にかわってテロ ップを表示するためのテロップ信号が出力され、 受信信号レベル低下により受信不能の旨を伝える テロップが画面に表示される。

#### 実施 例

第1図は本発明の第1の実施例における衛星放送用テレビジョンチューナの構成図であり第4図と同一物については同一番号を付しておく。第1図はテロップ発生回路14、およびAGCレベル

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じめ設定しておく。

以上のようにこの実施例によれば、AGCレベル電圧が一定のレベルより低下したときに接続を切り換えるスイッチ15と、それに接続されたテロップ発生回路14を設けることにより、降った減衰などにより映像受信品質が非常に低くなった減弱合には自動的に信号レベル低下を示すテロックに切り換えられ、一般視聴者にも容易に映像受信品質労化の原因が理解でき、衛星放送用テレビることが可能となる。

第2図は、本発明の第2の実施例における衛星 放送用テレビジョンチューナの構成図であり第1 図、第4図と同一物については同一番号を付して おく。第2図は可変レベルシフタ23が新たに加 えられた以外は第1図の実施例と同様な構成であ

以上のように構成されたとの実施例の衛星放送 用テレビジョンチューナについて、以下その動作 を説明する。可変レベルシフタ23は、スイッチ 1 5 の切り換えのAGCレベル電圧のスレッショルドを容易に変更できるようにするものである。これにより、前段のダウンコンバータの変更、アンテナ径の変更などにより第1 中間周波数入力信号レベルが変化し、AGCレベル電圧の通常値が変化した場合でも、可変レベルシフタ21のレベルシフト量を変化させ、映像受信品質に対するに保つことができる。その他は第1 図の実施例と同様に動作する。

以上のように、可変レベルシフタ23をスイッチの制御線21に挿入することにより、アンテナ 径が変更されたり、ダウンコンパータの利得が変 化しても、映像受信品質に対するテロップ発生の スレッショルドを一定に保つことが容易となる。

第3図は、本発明第3の実施例における衛星放送用テレビジョンチューナの構成図であり第1図、第2図、第4図と同一物については同一番号を付しておく。第3図は、スイッチ1 8が映像信号処理回路10の出力側ではなく入力側に挿入されて

いる点が第2図の実施例と異なる点である。以上とのような構成でも第1図および第2図の実施の関係に第1中間周波数入力信号レベルが優先の切り換えのの切り換えのの切り換えのの切り換えののが低がない。また、第2図のの実施例とスプートに表われる。また、第2図の実施例をことに表われる。また、第2図の実施のでは、できるとにより、アンテナ経やダウンの通常の変更により、アンテナ経やダウンの通常のでは、映像受信品質に対するテロッショルドを一定に保つとが可能である。

なお、第2図および第3の実施例において可変 レベルシフタ23のかわりに可変利得増幅器を用 いてもよい。また、第1、第2、第3の実施例に おいて信号レベルの検出にAGCレベル電圧を用 いたが、AGC増幅器3の出力信号又は第2中間 周波数増幅回路の信号を検波し直流的に増幅した 電圧を用いてもよい。また、第1、第2の実施例 ともにテロップの文面はどのようなものでもよい のはいりまでもない。

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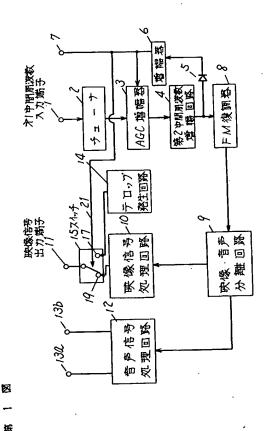
#### 発明の効果

以上説明したように、本発明によれば信号レベル低下による映像受信品質が著しく劣化した場合、テロップが表示され雑音だらけの劣化した映像を見なくてすみ、あわせて視聴者は容易に映像受信品質劣化の原因を知ることができその実用的効果は大きい。

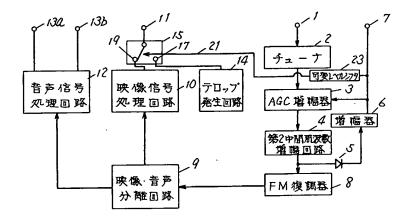
#### 4、図面の簡単な説明

第1図は本発明の一実施例における衛星放送用テレビチューナのプロック図、第2図,第3図は それぞれ本発明他の実施例における衛星放送用テレビチューナのプロック図、第4図は従来の衛星 放送用テレビチューナのプロック図である。

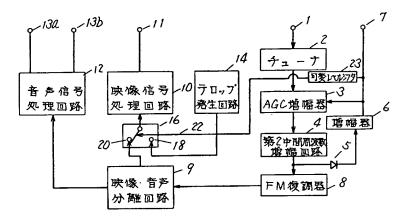
1 ……第1中間周波数入力端子、3 ……AGC 増幅器、5 ……検波ダイオード、1 O ……映像信 号処理回路、1 1 ……映像信号出力端子、1 4 … …テロップ発生回路、1 5 , 1 8 ……スイッチ。 代理人の氏名 弁理士 中 尾 敏 男 極か1名



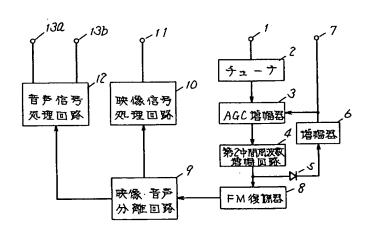
### 第 2 図



### 第 3 図



#### 第 4 図



--536---